

AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows.

In the Drawings

Please amend Fig. 7D and Fig. 7E in accordance with the Request for Approval of Drawing Corrections attached hereto and filed concurrently herewith.

In the Abstract

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure as follows:

~~The present invention is a~~ An endotracheal tube introducer (“introducer”) that slides within an endotracheal tube. The introducer has a tubular wall that defines a lumen extending between a split proximal end and a distal end of the introducer. The tubular wall has an outer diameter that is less than an inner diameter of the endotracheal tube. The tubular wall is circumscribed by an invertible shroud. The invertible shroud flexes distal-ward (“forward”) proximal-ward (“rearward”). The proximal end of the introducer is introduced into a distal end of the endotracheal tube and the shroud is manually retroflexed rearward to cover the sharp margins of the end of the endotracheal tube prior to its insertion into a patient’s airway. After the endotracheal tube has been properly positioned, the introducer is withdrawn, the motion of its withdrawal anteflexing the shroud forward for removal through the endotracheal tube.